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Minnesota Library Association Number

MINNESOTA PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION LIBRARY NOTES AND NEWS

Volume 5. No. 12.

ST. PAUL, December, 1918.

Quarterly

Entered as Second Class Matter, October 19, 1911, at the Postoffice at St. Paul, Minn., under the Act of July 16, 1894.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized August 1, 1918.

Mrs. Margaret Evans Huntington, Northfield, Chairman.

Gratia A. Countryman, Minneapolis.

M. L. Burton, Minneapolis.

C. G. Schulz, St. Paul.

Solon J. Buck, St. Paul.

Clara F. Baldwin, Director.

Amy Cowley, Librarian.

Mary P. Pringle, Reference Librarian.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the Minnesota Library Association was held at the Public Library, Mankato, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, September 26th-28th, 1918.

While the total registration of members was not more than 60, this fact served to promote better acquaintance, and a good representation of townspeople increased the attendance at the public meetings. The program took as its main theme Library War Service with emphasis on Americanization as one of the chief contributions. The vital interest in the theme was brought out in the round table, and stimulated by the unusual excellence of the speakers from outside our own membership. Dr. Aronovici's authoritative address was stirring and illuminating in a high degree and Prof. Pettersen gave a valuable contribution to

the book symposium. Mr. Lowe, in his camp library uniform added a touch of the military and presented a vivid picture of the varied aspects of camp library service. The presence of Mr. Lowe and Miss Lutie Stearns, always a welcome visitor at Minnesota library meetings, added much of value to all discussions, as well as to the pleasure of social occasions.

The exhibits of the camp library panels, war posters and photographs and the local history collections absorbed every spare moment of time between sessions, and everyone went home feeling that the meeting had been more profitable and delightful than ever before.

The first session was held Thursday afternoon. The chairman appointed as Committee on Nominations: Miss Blanche Seeley, Minneapolis; Mrs. Marie Brick, St. Cloud; Miss Myra W. Buell, St. Paul; Committee on Resolutions: Miss Margaret Palmer, Chisholm; Miss Marie Todd, Minneapolis; Miss Sarah E. LeCrone, Faribault.

Mrs. J. T. Jennings, St. Paul, read the first paper on Certification of Librarians. Mrs. Jennings advocated the establishing of certain library standards and the issuing of certificates to show compliance with these standards as the public schools require certificates of competence.

She discussed briefly the experience of libraries under Civil Service, good in theory but poor in practice. When examination and selection of candidates is not left to

the library the resulting misfits and changes disorganize a staff and practically result in the maintenance of a training class. Service to the public, not the training of the employee, should be the first consideration of the library. Certain advantages were allowed, especially the elimination of the unfit from the lower grades. (Civil Service, however, does not make for efficiency in the upper grades. The service is hampered by the judgment of those not trained in library service. No commission is competent to be expert in all lines of endeavor.

Certification among public libraries presents difficulties. Grades and requirements differ widely. Organization and administration vary with the size of the library.

Certain minimum requirements could be exacted such as graduation from high school and a summer library school course or its equivalent. Library experts should judge the qualifications of candidates. While standards might be raised by the educational influence of state meetings and state commissions, legislation is more rapid, constant and compelling. A system of state certification of librarians administered by a board of librarians would safeguard the public from inefficient service, save waste of public money, help trustees by sifting applicants, raise the plane of library service in the community and establish a higher salary scale.

Mr. C. Edward Graves, librarian Minnesota Historical Society, spoke on

Collecting Local War History Material in Minnesota.

He emphasized the duty of each generation to accumulate material for future generations. War material is now being gathered by various agencies but a wide field is still left for libraries. A War Records Commission has been appointed for the state by the Public Safety Commission which will issue bulletins and direct the collection of material on non-military war service.

Mr. Graves classed the material to be collected by librarians into two groups: Compilations and ready made records. To this latter kind belong newspapers and libraries should preserve two files of the local paper or papers, one file to bind and one to clip. Where possible name and subject card indexes should be made. Clippings may be classified and filed in manila envelopes or

in scrapbooks. Mr. Graves urged the importance of collecting both sides of controversies for the benefit of the historical student. Interesting manuscripts should be copied with the photostat where possible, otherwise copied by responsible persons. Note should be made of conditions under which copy was made. Mr. Graves discussed the exhibit of war material he had prepared.

Miss Todd explained briefly her exhibit of war photographs and pictures.

The meeting adjourned to a lecture room of the State Normal School where Miss Todd gave a lecture on war lantern slides illustrated by slides drawn from various collections. Her purpose was to show the range of subjects and the quality of the slides. The selection covered war industries in America, camp life, war pictures, German atrocities and Red Cross work.

In the evening, following an informal reception in the library of the State Normal School a public meeting was held. Dr. J. A. Hancock of Mankato presided and introduced, as speaker of the evening, Dr. Carol Aronovici, chairman of the State Committee on Americanization, St. Paul.

Dr. Aronovici discussed Americanization, its meaning and function. As an American citizen of Roumanian descent he presented the subject from the standpoint of the educated foreigner in America. Extracts from the address with the program of the State Committee on Americanization appear on another page.

Mr. John Adams Lowe of the Massachusetts Free Public Library Commission led the discussion, contributing his experience on the Commission, which has made a special study of library work for foreigners, and in camp library work with foreigners at Camp Devens.

He told some interesting incidents to show how the soldier who does not understand English is "out o' luck," and how the foreigners are absorbing American ideas in the true democracy of army life.

The session Friday morning was given over to a

Round Table on Library War Service

planned by Miss Grace Stevens, Virginia. As she was unable to be present, Miss Margaret Palmer, Chisholm, led the discussion in her stead. The following topics were taken up:

Local History: Miss Maud van Buren, Mankato, presented the subject from the standpoint of the small public library, whose librarian has all of the administrative and inspirational work to do and also much of the daily routine. This librarian must not only meet present needs, but save for the future every scrap of print and manuscript that has to do with the varied interests of her community. This includes handbills, dodgers, leaflets, folders, posters, programs, pamphlets, booklets, reports, letters and serial publications and most useful of all the local newspaper. In the case of newspapers, experience has taught that these should always be bound in strong durable binding. Other material should be filed in simple form so that it may be easily accessible, avoiding cumbersome details. Clipping of local newspapers can be done by volunteer helpers, but Miss van Buren maintained that the time spent either in clipping or indexing might better be spent in the making of local history through reaching every man, woman and child in the community and familiarizing oneself with their interests and tastes. The line must be drawn between hobbies or fads and essentials—between efforts which bring only occasional results to a few individuals and those which bring big returns in public enthusiasm for an institution which should go down in community history as the one biggest force in the community.

Mrs. Goss, Anoka, reported that she has clipped material, filed it in manila envelopes with subject headings. She has saved all printed material on war work such as hand bills and the like. The high school pupils have formed an association, the "Sammy backers" which is keeping in touch with the boys in war service. The library is preserving a collection of their letters and photographs.

Miss Riley, who was to report for Cloquet was not present and Miss Cameron took her place. The library had been able to find a volunteer worker to take charge under the library's direction of compiling a complete record of every boy in the county in war service. Through the Mother's Club at the High School interest has been aroused by lantern lectures with letters and pictures. Postal cards are collected. Newspapers kept on file. The boys in war work have promised to send back curios. The

motion picture house has agreed to run slides advertising this work of the library.

War Service in the Library:

Mrs. Marie E. Brick, St. Cloud, told of the library's distribution of seeds for war gardens and the interest aroused in the community through work with Mothers' Clubs and through the schools. Seed packages were sent out to all the schools. The work of the library so interested the Commercial club that it secured free lots and plowed them. Lots were distributed from the library like books. St. Cloud ranked second or third in the state in the number of war gardens. The teachers of agriculture in the High School advised in the selection of seeds. Food demonstrations were conducted by High School students at the County Fair and Food Administration pamphlets were given out. A cook book sponsored by the Council of National Defense was put up at cost and gained wide distribution.

Miss Winifred Gregory of the Industrial Arts Department of the St. Paul Public Library reported an increasing demand for informative material. The drives for books for soldiers and money for the camp libraries had advertised the library. The war work of the department had fallen into three divisions: work with soldiers, with war workers in the community, with those in training for promotion in their own lines or called to new work. The civilian reads promiscuously, the soldier along technical and scientific lines. The various organizations appointed representatives to form a committee which met at the library to talk over their work. Ward and block workers helped distribute material sent out from the library. Book lists have been compiled and a study room arranged for speakers with a collection of clippings, maps and pamphlets. An information booth on the first floor of the library was established where a representative of the Council of Defense sold thrift stamps and bonds. Experts have been persuaded to write up various subjects such as canning, mushrooms, soap making and the like and this material has been mimeographed by the library for distribution. The Art Department has kept in touch with the schools, has loaned lantern slides and pictures and has arranged displays of war cartoons.

Miss Minnie Bird, Fairmont, reported that she had kept in mind the mothers of soldiers

and had called their attention to helpful and inspiring articles in books and magazines. Domestic science teachers gave talks in the library to children on conservation. Food Administration pamphlets were distributed. Knitting was taught in the library.

Mr. Lowe urged upon libraries an important war service in the guarding against German propaganda. He advised a careful censorship over books with especial attention to "free material." He recommended material sent out by Professor Dixon and stated that a most complete list of dangerous material had been issued by the Connecticut Commission of Public Safety, Hartford. Books on this list had best be stored away.

Co-operation with other organizations:

Miss Sarah LeCrone, Faribault, told of her experience with the block system as organized under the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense but used by all agencies for the distribution of pamphlets and securing of publicity.

Miss Louise McCarthy of the State Food Administration outlined their plan of organization and spoke of the educational work carried on through schools, churches, lodges, fraternal organizations and libraries. She emphasized the need of neighborliness in dealing with our foreign population.

Red Cross: Miss Dorothy Hurlbert, Hibbing, reported that her library had carried on an "all day" drive for workers in Red Cross and that they had secured 350 workers for a day at the library where luncheon was served. Three weeks work was accomplished.

Mrs. Jenny Lind Blanchard, Little Falls, conducted a Red Cross drive for memberships and had displayed in the library Red Cross material and posters.

Miss Tanye Burgess, Austin, reported special work done with children. The Girl Scouts popped corn for Camp Dodge. Groups of boys gave entertainments. Little girls gave food demonstrations in the library and sold "tastes" of the dishes and distributed recipes, scrap books were made for soldiers. Book stores were persuaded to give windows for displays and prizes offered for the best window. The library helped organize garden clubs, co-operated with the Civilian Relief and at Christmas time saw that the soldier boys of the county were remembered.

Food Conservation: Miss Clara Fanning reported for Miss Arabel Martin of Minneapolis on the distribution of recipes photographed on cards.

Mrs. R. M. Hunter of Duluth was unable to be present. Miss Patton reported briefly on the newspaper publicity work of the Duluth library and in the afternoon read Mrs. Hunter's report the substance of which is given here.

Upon the recommendation of the advisory committee on food conservation of the Council of National Defense, Mrs. Hunter had been chosen because of her practical experience as a housewife to take charge of the Food Conservation Department at the library. "The first work of the department was to secure a collection of the most up-to-date war cook books, conservation bulletins, both state and national, and the leaflets from the U. S. Food Administration.

Publicity work had been accomplished by means of a fine new bulletin board, with a shelf for books and leaflets, placed in the main lobby of the library. The bulletin board is kept up-to-date with war food facts, and food news of all description, with an inevitable cartoon to lighten the menu. Posters are made for display in the various department store windows. These are of standard size, and all connected with the food department of the public library. We have frames for these posters on display, and keep them rotating, changing them every week. The Duluth artists have contributed generously by making posters of high artistic merit, and some excellent posters have been made by the High school pupils in the art department and by the window trimmers of the various department stores.

A public demonstration was arranged in the library club room of cooked, dehydrated vegetables prepared by the home demonstration agent in a small dehydrator built for experimental purposes. In connection with the demonstration a poster exhibit was planned. In addition to publicity by bulletin board and posters, a weekly food story was run in the Saturday evening and Sunday morning papers, taking up some current phase, change in regulations, or food values.

Responses in person, by telephone, and by letters from various places, proved that "It pays to advertise," and submitted a

variety of problems, from restaurant and boarding-house keepers, besides many individual house-keepers. Talks have also been given to neighborhood clubs on food values, the right way to prepare food, with emphasis on saving the waste."

Mrs. E. B. Read, Preston, reported that she had organized a week's conference on food problems.

Mrs. Claude C. Perkins, Pine Island, successfully carried out the potato program furnished by the Food Administration.

The Friday afternoon session opened with a paper by Miss Mary Wilkinson, Duluth, on the **Children's Year in Library Work**, which appears on page 184 followed by a short list of children's war books with a brief comment on each.

A general discussion was held on the subject of Food Conservation led by Miss McCarthy of the State Food Administration. The question of methods of work with foreigners was raised. Miss McCarthy opposed the plan of translation of recipes into foreign languages. Mr. Lowe told of the Massachusetts plan of translation into many different languages and the wide distribution of material. Miss Stearns suggested the changing of breweries into dehydrating plants.

Miss Baldwin displayed sets of small pictures illustrating agriculture in all lands which the Commission has received from the Food Administration for circulation.

The speakers on Americanization announced in the program were unable to be present. Miss Stearns, Milwaukee, was called upon and spoke briefly on the question of Americanization. America finds itself a melting pot not all melted. Parochial schools have been conducted in foreign languages. It is reported that in the first draft over 45,000 men could not read, write or speak a word of English. Compulsory educational laws have not been enforced. Parochial schools must be required to teach in English. Miss Stearns maintained that it was the function of the school, not the library, to teach English. The library should promote friendship with the foreign element. The situation is the more grave in that large groups of foreign people have been allowed to exist knowing nothing of American institutions. Children can be educated but older people remain a serious problem.

Miss Baldwin reported on the state org-

anization of the United War Work Campaign and urged every librarian to do her part. Mr. Lowe spoke briefly on the spirit back of the campaign.

The meeting adjourned at four o'clock to accept the hospitality of the Auto Club, and the members of the Association enjoyed a tour of Mankato and the surrounding country. The gorgeous autumn colorings defied description and the views from the hills will long remain a wonderful memory. A picnic supper was served at Sibley Park by the Ladies' Society of the Presbyterian church.

In the evening a public meeting was held with Dr. J. A. Hancock presiding. Mr. John Adams Lowe, Librarian of Camp Devens, Massachusetts, spoke on

Camp Library Service.

"The first business of a soldier is to learn how to become a good fighter," said Mr. Lowe, "and this entails much business of instruction. Anything that promotes the making of good soldiers is worthy and should be promoted."

He then reviewed the work of the A. L. A. in establishing library service for all men in service, both in this country and overseas, dwelling on its important educational features and showing how the camp library with its "honest-to-God four-legged chairs," its plants, curtains and fire place provided a social center with a touch of home which was greatly appreciated by the boys.

The story of Library War Service is familiar to all librarians who have read the War Library bulletins, and it is impossible to give details of Mr. Lowe's speech or to reproduce his inimitable relation of incidents in his experience, which gave his audience a more vivid impression of what this service has meant to the men in the camps and a more sympathetic understanding of our new army and its significance in the new democracy.

Miss Stearns, Milwaukee, spoke briefly of her own visits to camp libraries and paid a sincere tribute to the work done at Camp Devens. She emphasized the opportunity for service of the librarian at her regular post and the value of her contribution to the community.

The Saturday morning session was devoted to a Book symposium conducted by Dr. G. S. Pettersen of the Mankato Normal School. Dr. Pettersen took up the books

about new Americans, the interpretation of American life through books written by new Americans. The list with brief comments is printed on another page.

Miss Josephine M. McPike, Minneapolis, presented a list of books for new Americans. She deplored the lack of easy reading for foreigners who are learning English. Books sufficiently interesting for adults possess vocabularies beyond their attainments. Books in simple English are usually too puerile for adult intelligence. She submitted a list of books which have been used successfully in her work with foreigners. (See pages 182-3.)

Miss Clara E. Fanning, Minneapolis, with the help of Miss Katharine Patten, Minneapolis, presented readings from recent war books. She chose those narratives of living warriors which arouse the spirit of patriotism.

The Nominating Committee presented the following report: President, Mrs. Jenny Lind Blanchard, Little Falls; First Vice-President, Mrs. J. T. Jennings, St. Paul; Second Vice-President, Miss Grace L. Meyer, Red Wing; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Marie A. Todd, Minneapolis; Member Executive Board, Miss Dorothy Hurlbert, Hibbing.

The report was adopted unanimously.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following resolutions which, on motion duly made and seconded, were adopted.

We the members of the Minnesota Library Association assembled in our 26th Annual Meeting, wish to express our appreciation of the courtesy shown us by the people of Mankato, in its various neighbourly expressions of good will and regard for our pleasure and our comfort, during our stay with them.

The kind offices of the Library Board and the Librarian, beginning before our arrival are deeply appreciated. The Junior Cadets brought us to our places of entertainment and their services followed us during the days of our visit.

The Faculty of the Normal School and our old friend Miss Farr gave us warm greetings in their beautiful library rooms, which housed our first evening session; the press of Mankato and the thoughtfulness of the Auto Club have furnished us mental slides of the beauty spots of Mankato, which we shall recall in days to come with real delight; The Ladies Society of the

Presbyterian church ministered kindly to our physical needs in an appetizing picnic lunch; and the Masonic Order opened its hospitable doors for our second evening's program.

Nor do we forget that Mr. Nielson's gift of flowers have brightened every meeting of our association.

Mankato has been very kind and we are very grateful to her and glad of the days we have spent with her and of this opportunity to express our appreciation.

The Committee on Resolutions has only one sad office to perform. It will come as a shock to many to learn of the sudden death of Mr. William H. Brett, Librarian of Cleveland, concerning whom we offer this resolution.

Whereas no one in the profession was more honored and loved than Mr. William H. Brett, because of his work as a librarian, his character as a Christian gentleman and his countless acts of kindness to his fellow librarians, therefore.

Be it resolved, That we, the members of the Minnesota Library Association, express our keen sense of the loss of his experience and ability. We mourn the taking away of a patriot of a type that the country can ill afford to lose; we grieve for the death of this friend, the lovable and noble graces of whose mind and heart had won for him a position unique in the library world. And

Be it resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to Mrs. Brett, to Miss Linda Eastman and the staff of the Cleveland Library, and to the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Library.

Respectfully submitted,
MARGARET PALMER,
MARIE TODD,
SARAH LE CRONE.

It was moved and seconded that greetings be sent Mr. W. L. Lamb, for thirty years president of the library board of Fairmont. Miss Bird was instructed to carry the message and the good wishes of the Association for his recovery.

On motion duly made and seconded the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with and the minutes as printed in the Minnesota Notes and News were approved.

No decision was made as to place of the next meeting.

RUTH ROSHOLT,
Secretary.

AMERICANIZATION, ITS MEANING AND FUNCTION

By CAROL ARONOVICI.

The fact that only since the beginning of the war have we become truly conscious of the existence of a problem of Americanization is indicative of the fact that the war has brought before the American people, for the first time the problem of a national unity. Let us for a moment consider what are the basic factors upon which national unity might be built. Thinkers on national questions differ as to what these basic factors are and I shall merely presume to suggest those that I consider most essential, not in the achievement of a new state but in integrating and shaping the future destiny of a state already in existence. These basic factors are as follows:

1. A common land—occupied or aspired to.
2. Common social and political interests.
3. A common language.
4. Adequate political and economic independence.
5. A common purpose or ideal.

These are to my mind the foundations of a permanent state and it is devotion to these common interests that constitutes patriotism.

That notwithstanding these common assets of all the people, religious and racial differences may exist is beyond question and in no country more clearly than in the United States have these issues made a stronger impression upon the political and social institutions of the people.

That the framers of the Constitution of the United States eliminated both race and religions from the fundamental political forces of the country is evidence of the keen understanding of statecraft that these men had. In stating the five factors I have endeavored to arrange them in order of their complexity as a concept, and in order of their importance in the integration of the nation.

The great adventure of the American people in entering upon a war to make the world safe for democracy marks a new era in the civilized world. An army consisting of people of every race and creed but essentially American in its ideals and aims is teaching the nations engaged in the struggle the lesson that a great people must be a free people.

While the struggle for democracy is being successfully prosecuted abroad the task of achieving a more complete and more effective national unity at home commends itself to the people at home.

The Minnesota State Americanization Committee recently appointed by Governor Burnquist at the suggestion of the Federal Government in undertaking the task of bringing about a clearer understanding and deeper sympathy between the American and foreign-born peoples of this state, realizes the many difficulties in the way of tangible achievement and the dangers of having its policies misunderstood or misconstrued. Mistaken notions of race or national pride, failure to understand the true purport and meaning of American institutions—social or political—deeply rooted tradition and prejudices, unfortunate and not altogether unavoidable incidents of economic injustice and social discrimination, prevailing among natives and foreigners alike, have kept the masses of the people aliens to each other. To remove these formidable barriers may take many years, but with every new American battalion entering the struggle abroad in the interest of freedom for Frenchmen and Belgian, Serb and Roumanian, Italian and Armenian, Czecho-Slovak and Yugo-Slav alike, the masses at home are daily coming nearer the realization of the common ideals which can be realized only by a united nation.

The Americanization Committee does not arrogate to itself the authority, nor has it the means to achieve all that can be and should be achieved in the State of Minnesota by way of uniting the people for a permanent and progressive democracy at home. All that can be hoped for is that this process of unification and the enlightenment of the people in their relation to American ideals and institutions may be accelerated and be made the common heritage and common treasure of all the people.

The Committee, while realizing that differences of opinion regarding the fundamentals of Americanization work do exist, believe that the following are beyond dispute:

1. Understanding of American institutions and American ideals, and practical contact with their functions and maintenance.
2. The development of mutual under-

standing and sympathy between native and foreign-born people.

3. The use of a common language as a means of facilitating a common understanding between all the people.

4. Protection of the foreign peoples against social and economic injustice due to governmental inefficiency or private exploitation.

5. The discovery and development of leadership from among the foreign people as well as the development of racial and national characters that would constitute an asset in the development of an efficient and progressive democracy and a great culture.

6. The avoidance of all public action or private enterprise that would attempt to impose upon the unamericanized people of this state, methods of Americanization that are inconsistent with the fundamental principles of a free and great democratic government.

The development of ways and means of applying these principles to the Americanization movement in the State of Minnesota will have to depend upon the co-operation of the truly American people of this state, and the various organizations and agencies engaged in this work as part of their patriotic duty. All that the Committee can do for the present is to suggest certain methods of work which have proved effective in the past and which are applicable to conditions in this state. Some of these suggestions are as follows:

1. Dissemination of facts relating to local, state and federal government, particularly as they affect the every-day life of the people and as they show the ideas and ideals of service that underlie American institutions. This can be done through the public press, English and foreign, through graphic exhibits, patriotic celebrations, pageants, etc.

2. The use of schools, libraries, town halls, auditoriums, churches and other buildings as community social centers in which community or neighborhood activities would be carried on by natives and foreigners alike. These community centers should so organize the leisure time of the people as to bring out all potential leadership and establish a friendly, sympathetic and co-operative contact between all the people living in a given neighborhood or community.

3. The placing at strategic points in schools, churches, playgrounds, libraries, etc., of collections of foreign books dealing with America and American ideals, or translations from American and English authors in order to develop a taste for American and English literature and knowledge of things American.

4. Urging of the importance of and the affording of opportunities for the study of the English language. The effort should, however, not take the form of compulsion, but the Government, private agencies and industrial establishments should provide every inducement and facility of attaining this end. Any effort by law or otherwise, to compel individuals to study or use the English language is bound to fail, and such a policy should be repugnant to a truly democratic people.

5. The publication and dissemination of facts relating to social welfare organization agencies maintained for the protection of individual rights and privileges, educational and recreational institutions, etc., which would place before the people information which would be helpful in securing adequate protection and service against conditions detrimental to speedy Americanization.

6. Forming of local improvement committees made up on a sectional basis, with membership of both native and foreign born. Those committees to act as a clearing house for local work in meeting Americanization, health, educational and civic needs of the district.

7. The holding of exhibits of the arts and crafts of the various foreign nationalities with a view to making their work known and appreciated, and where able to give the nationalities concerned a sense of the appreciation that Americans have of their work.

These and similar efforts will place the Americanization movement on a basis consistent with the needs of the state, and will afford unusual opportunities for utilizing every agency capable of co-operating in this effort.

BOOKS ABOUT NEW AMERICANS

Compiled by DR. G. S. PETERSEN,
Mankato Normal School.

Antin, Mary: Promised land.

They who knock at our
gates.
Brilliant but emotional.

Brown, D. V. In the heart of German intrigue.

A good war book interpreting America to the Greeks or to any foreigner.

Cahan, Abraham. Rise of David Levinsky.
A novel.

Dillon, E. J. Eclipse of Russia.

Presents historical side. A little heavy.

***Ravage, M. E.** An American in the making.
Life story of a Roumanian Jew. A fine Americanization document.

Rihbany, A. M. Far journey.

Well written. The far journey is from Asia Minor to America, from stone mason to minister of the gospel, from the orthodox Greek church to Unitarian pastor.

— Militant America and Jesus Christ.

Constructive, written for soldiers and sailors.

Riis, J. A. Making of an American.

Gives the key to the Scandinavian situation.

Ross, E. A. Russia in upheaval.
Popular.

***Schurz, Carl.** Reminiscences.

For use with German-Americans.

Steiner, E. A. From alien to citizen.
Of local interest.

— Against the current.

Brief—an introduction to the spirit of America.

— Nationalizing America.

— Confessions of a hyphenated American.

— The mediator.

A novel, remarkable but lacking in literary quality.

— Uncle Joe's Lincoln.

***Stern, Mrs. E. G. L.** My mother and I.
Russian-German-Jewish background.
Put in the hands of Germans and Jews.

BOOKS FOR NEW AMERICANS.

Compiled by JOSEPHINE M. McPIKE,
Seven Corners Branch, Minneapolis Public Library.

Very Easy Books for Beginners in English
Brooks, E. S. True story of Christopher Columbus.

— True story of Abraham Lincoln.

Dodge, N. S. Stories of American history.

*Particularly recommended for small libraries.

Gordy, W. F. Later stories of American history.

Judd, M. C. Wigwam stories.

Pierson, H. W. Lives of the presidents in words of one syllable.

— History of the U. S. in words of one syllable.

Pollard, Mrs. Josephine. History of the Old Testament.

Pratt, M. L. DeSoto, Marquette and LaSalle.

Books for Readers a Little More Advanced
Alcott, L. M. Little women.

Burton, A. H. Four American patriots.

Clemens, S. L. Life on the Mississippi.

Defoe, Daniel. Robinson Crusoe.

Duncan, Norman. Dr. Luke of the Labrador.

Faris, J. T. Makers of our history.

Franklin, Benjamin. Autobiography.

Hale, E. E. Man without a country.

Herdman, M. L. Story of the U. S.

Johnston, C. H. L. Famous frontiersmen.

Lane, R. W. Henry Ford's own story.

London, Jack. Call of the wild.

— White Fang.

Marshall, H. E. Stories of Scotland, France, etc.

Meadowcroft, W. H. Life of Edison.

Parkman, M. R. Heroes of today.

Stewart, E. P. Letters of a woman homesteader.

Tarkington, Booth. Gentleman from Indiana.

White, S. E. Blazed trail stories.

POPULAR WAR BOOKS

Compiled by CLARA E. FANNING,
Minneapolis Public Library.

Aviators

Hall, Bert. En l'air.

Hall, J. N. High adventure.

Fiction

Angellotti, M. P. Firefly of France.

Guiches, Gustave. Soldiers both.

Laing, Janet. Before the wind.

MacGill, Patrick. Brown brethren.

Rinehart, M. R. Amazing interlude.

Tinayre, Marcelle. To arms!

Humor, Satire, Etc.

Bachelor, Irving. Keeping up with William.

Strunsky, Simeon. Little journeys towards Paris, 1914-1918.

White, W. A. Martial adventures of Henry and me.

Personal Narratives

Clark, A. T. To Bagdad with the British.

Depew, A. N. Gunner Depew.
 Fallon, David. Big fight.
 Haigh, Richard. Life in a tank.
 Knyvett, R. H. Over there with the Australians.
 Lauder, Harry. Minstrel in France.
 Musgrave, G. C. Under four flags for France.
 O'Brien, Pat. Outwitting the Hun.
 Peat, H. R. Private Peat.
 Pinkerton, R. D. "Ladies from hell."

Poetry

Andrews, C. E., ed. From the front.
 Bates, K. L. Retinue.
 Burr, Josephine. Silver trumpet.
 Clarke, G. H., ed. Treasury of war poetry.
 Cunliffe, J. W., ed. Poems of the great war.
 Harvey, F. W. Gloucestershire friends.
 Nichols, Robert. Ardours and endurances.
 U. S. Committee on public information. Battle line of democracy.
 Wheeler, W. R., ed. Book of verse of the great war.

Religious Aspects

Dawson, Coningsby. Glory of the trenches.
 Rihbany, A. M. Militant America and Jesus Christ.

U. S. and the American Army

Broun, Heywood. The A. E. F.
 Cheradame, Andre. United States and Pangermania.
 Clarke, I. C. American women and the world war.
 Collins, F. A. Fighting engineers.
 Crump, Irving. Conscript 2989.
 Eddy, Sherwood. With our soldiers in France.
 Empey, A. G. First call.
 Hunt, Frazier. Blown in by the draft.
 Odell, J. H. New spirit of the new army.

Miscellaneous

Beith, I. H. All in it.
 Brown, Demetra. In the heart of German intrigue.
 Gibson, Hugh. Journal from our legation in Belgium.
 Hillis, N. D. German atrocities.
 Huard, Frances. My home in the field of mercy.
 Masfield, John. Old front line.
 Paine, R. D. Fighting fleets.
 Price, G. W. Story of the Salonica army.
 Wright, R. L. Letters to the mother of a soldier.

THE CHILDREN'S YEAR IN LIBRARY SERVICE

By MARY S. WILKINSON,
 Children's Librarian, Duluth Public Library.

It is a far cry from the days when children were expected to be seen and not heard to the present which is emphatically the children's year. Starting from the Children's Bureau in Washington and extending into every hamlet, town and city in the country are indications of a definite, concerted program looking toward the immediate and ultimate welfare of the children: Clinics for the prenatal care of the mother, day nurseries under the supervision of experts only, school nurses and doctors, special teachers for backward children, Juvenile Courts working with other social agencies, and finally, a Child Labor Law which shall yet be declared constitutional.

And how do the children re-act under this burden of attention, and what share has the library in it? Happily, the children have been too well occupied to grow introspective—their interest being engaged in gaily responding to calls from Thrift clubs, School gardens, farmers, War library collections and Junior Red Cross. The library has borne its part in mobilizing the children. Knitting clubs of boys no longer in school or too sheepish to "belong" elsewhere, have flourished under the supervision of a Children's librarian; Library Thrift clubs, their members writing letters to the "library teacher" telling how they earned their stamps have sprung into being here, there and everywhere. Posting the letters in the Children's room has helped to keep alive the zeal of the original members, and incited the laggards to like efforts—the glory of being in the public eye acting as a stimulant to a hazy patriotism. Conservation posters have practically superseded the familiar library bulletin as decorations; camp librarians have talked to groups of older boys and girls describing both camp and library, and willingly answering the storm of questions; scrap-books for army hospitals have been made by individuals, by groups under library supervision and by groups under volunteer leadership—these last sending their work directly to the A. L. A. headquarters; What library but would have been the poorer in books for soldiers had it not been for the eager children who

first brought books from their own homes and then went to all the neighbors. By enlisting the aid of the Junior Red Cross in this work, methods and results staggering were developed. In one Pittsburgh district streets were allotted to each grade of a certain school, the children being given definite houses to canvass. They returned, bearing books in soap boxes, express wagons and baby carriages to a total of over eight thousand. From money appropriated by the Junior Red Cross, materials were purchased from which boys in the Manual Training Departments made boxes for packing and shipping these books, while boys in the Business Department typed the necessary cards, and still others pasted in pockets and packed. The books had been first sorted by assistants from the library.

There is something very contagious in all this stir and bustle. If we are not actively sharing in it we feel that something is radically wrong and look about for a remedy. Yet the library's real opportunity for service with the children lies in another, quieter direction. It must at the same time preserve a sane outlook fully aware that after war comes peace, and be the means of providing a solid spiritual background for the war work in order that therein a deeper meaning may be discerned than the emotionalism of the moment which lapses all too soon into boredom, or is shoved one side by some newer enthusiasm. More than ever before it is imperative that books and story-hour programs be selected for their sincerity, their inspirational and imagination-stirring qualities. Then if our idealism and singleness of purpose be strong enough, we may have a share in cherishing the nobler instincts of the children upon which we must depend for a world regenerate.

The classic heroes who slew dragons and other monsters ravaging an oppressed country and the knights of the Round Table faring forth to seek fame and honor, or to rescue one in distress should not be forgotten nor yet obviously used to point a moral. The appeal of their intrinsic and symbolic beauty is for every age and every people. Who can say to what acts of heroism, now as at all times, they have been the unacknowledged inspiration. American history—the history of a struggle for freedom and democracy—cannot be

neglected even in the face of the craving for facts about our allies. Without a knowledge of our own development into a nation, our traditions and our institutions how shall our boys and girls become true Americans—in heart, in mind, in spirit—instead of in name alone.

Is true freedom but to break
Fetters for our own dear sake,
And with leathern hearts, forget
That we owe mankind a debt?

Since American does not mean selfishness or ignorance we must also know the history of the allies and about their great men: their Gordons, Pasteurs, Garibaldis and Fr. Damiens. The Junior Red Cross recognizing the need for spiritual ballast has appointed a library committee whose duties in part, consist of preparing from time to time appropriate story-hour programs and book lists.

A very real problem confronts us in buying books about the war for children. Most of those now available are poorly written as made-to-order books are too apt to be; some are overdrawn and sensational, while others are stupidly didactic. The most genuine and therefore most readable material is found in the personal narratives of men who in one capacity or another have been "over there." Parts of these narratives may be over the heads of the young readers, but in spite of that such tales, sincere, honest, and simply told are infinitely more worth while than the improbable yarns about youths who in the first place had no business in the war zone, and in the second were prigs to begin with and prigs to end with. The awakening of deep and earnest feelings in the men who in the early days of the war went adventuring in France which is to be traced in most of their stories is not the least of their value.

Where time permits interesting scrap-books can be made from war pictures which delight the younger children. A book of Tanks, of Trench life, or of life in the training camps is peculiarly valuable now when literature about these subjects is still very meagre. The Sunday supplements, Illustrated London News and Scientific American are among the sources from which reliable pictures may be obtained. The children like to bring papers from home for this purpose and should be encouraged to do so. What-

ever contributes to their feeling of ownership and pride in the library, and indirectly to civic responsibility becomes in itself a thing of value.

Not so very long ago, it was felt that merely by being, a library fulfilled the purpose of its existence. Then came the era of advertising. The library ceased to exist: it or its agents raced hither and thither, if the people could or would not come to the library, then the library would go to them. Subtly bragging, librarians began to deprecate the number and variety of capacities in which they functioned—translator, legal or medical advisor, police, letter writer, instructor in knitting as well as in English—the tale of them is over long. Now, after a frenzied year of responding to war measures of every description, we realize that our second conception was as inadequate as the first. The last is the best, namely, that the library by showing the children how patriotism is real and personal, a question of every day living—not of fighting and warring only—is safeguarding liberty for the future.

BOOKS ABOUT THE WAR FOR CHILDREN

Austin, O. P. Uncle Sam's boy at war.

A tiresome explanation of methods and weapons used in modern war-fare interwoven with a thin thread of most improbable story. Indexed.

Rolt-Wheeler, F. W. Wonder of war in the air.

Stilted, unreal and melodramatic. Not indexed.

Aldon, Adair. Island of Appledore.

A German spy story, the scene of which is laid off the coast of New England. The attempt to establish a wireless station is frustrated by the hero, somewhat of a spoiled child. He ends his summer outing by enlisting in the navy.

Greene, Homer. The flag.

An insult to the flag in a fit of anger causes the hero much suffering. As a young man he redeems his honor by serving in France with a Canadian regiment. The second part of the book is much superior to the first which is forced.

Hagedorn, Herman. You are the hope of the world.

"An eloquent appeal to the boys and girls of America to realize that the future

is in their hands and to awaken them to their responsibility." Better read aloud.
McConnell, J. R. Flying for France.

Enthusiastic account of the training and adventures of the first fighting unit of American aviators. Heroic deeds told simply and as a matter of fact.

"Mademoiselle Miss." Letters from an American girl.

Real letters alive with the writer's enthusiasm and joy in her work, not merely details of nursing. Good to read aloud to older girls.

O'Brien, Pat. Outwitting the Hun.

Endurance, pluck and daring brought this attempt at escape to a successful end. Buoyantly written. Shows the writer's conviction that he was saved to accomplish something real.

Pier, A. S. The Plattsburgers.

About the first students' military training camp, yet differing little from the usual boys school story. The spirit is good.

Richards, L. E. Abigail Adams and her times.

Pictures of life in Revolutionary days, especially of the patriotic women—courageous and self-denying.

Southworth, G. V. & Paine, P. M. Bugle calls of liberty.

"Epoch making speeches and appropriate verse tracing the history of the U. S. up to its entrance into the European war."

Stevenson, W. Y. At the front in a flivver.

Nine months on the Somme, around Verdun and in the Argonne. Pictures the men's quarters, difficulties of driving in the dark and under shell fire. Slangy but earnest, showing the development from an adventure—seeker to a servant of France.

CURRENT MINNESOTA LITERATURE.

An index to books and magazine articles relating to Minnesota of today, compiled by the staff of the St. Paul Public Library.

City planning. Housing and city planning progress in St. Paul. il. Am. city (C. ed.) 18:406-7. May, 1918.

Creameries. U. S. Agriculture Department. Markets bureau. Marketing practices of Wisconsin and Minnesota creameries, by Roy C. Potts. (Its Bulletin No. 690, July 23, 1918. 15 p.)

Dairying, Co-operative. Developing the creamery industry. M. J. Cort. Western

Magazine. 12:15, 67, 101, 137, July-Oct. 1918.

Dunwoody industrial institute, Minneapolis. An experiment that worked. W. Connelly. illus. Bellman, 25:123-129. Aug. 3, 1918.

Education, Secondary. Semester reorganization and program making in the Central high school of St. Paul, Minnesota. A. G. Meier, School Review, 26:429-453. April, 1918.

Employers' Liability. Minnesota Department of Labor and Industries. Court decisions . . . relative to the workmen's compensation act. 67 p. (Its Bulletin No. 15, Sept., 1918.)

Feeble minded. Minnesota's heritage from the mountaineers of the South. Maud A. Merrill. Survey, August 17-Sept. 14, 1918, p. 562-564, 584, 611-612, 664-665. Based on surveys made by the Minnesota school for the feeble minded.

Fishing. First national bank, St. Paul. 100 miles of fishing, 1918. 50 p. 2 folded maps.

Itaska State Park. Itaska State Park. illus. Western Magazine 12:4-14. July, 1918.

Mussels. The Mussel fisheries of Minnesota. E. DeLestry. illus. Western Magazine 12:133-136. Oct., 1918.

Minnesota. Description and travel. At the crossing. A Britt. illus. Outing 72:175-177, 215. June, 1918.

Campfire nights. A. Britt. il. Outing 72: 90-93, 416, May, 1918.

Duluth—A city with a back yard. A. Britt. il. Outing 72:225-229, 276. July, 1918.

Never out of high. A. Britt. il. Outing. 72:304-307. August, 1918.

Paddle and portage in Minnesota. A. Britt. il. 72:5-11. April, 1918.

Thru the North Woods; photographs. Outing. 72:16-32. April, 1918.

Minnesota—Social life and conditions. Minnesota state conference of charities and corrections. Proceedings of the 26th conference held at Owatonna, Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 1917. (State board of control, Quarterly bulletin, special edition, Aug. 5, 1918.)

Contains "The next step in child welfare in Minnesota" Judge E. F. Waite; "Why each county should have a child welfare board," Charles E. Vasaly; "The new law for the feeble-minded," F. Kuhlmann, "How the University plans to meet

the demand for trained social workers," Dr. A. J. Todd.

Minnesota State board of control. Minnesota's State Board of Control. E. L. DeLestry. il. Western Magazine, 12:86-94, Sept., 1918.

Morgan Park, Minn. A modern industrial suburb, L. Magnusson. 25 p. il. 4 pl. From monthly review of U. S. Bureau of labor statistics, April, 1918.

Rowing. Rowing as Duluth does it. A. Britt. il. Outing, 72:371-374. Sept., 1918.

St. Paul Union station. Construction program is developed for union station at St. Paul. Engineering news-record, June, 20, 1918, p. 1184-1186. Charts.

Trapping. Our fur bearing animals. W. J. Burnett. il. Western Magazine. 12:196-202, Nov., 1918.

Modern beaver trapping. Wm. T. Cox. il. Western Magazine. 12:183-186. Nov., 1918.

War organizations. Mobilizing a western city. M. F. Severance. il. Review of Review's, 57:305-306. March, 1918.

Contributions for this department should be addressed to the librarian of the St. Paul Public Library.

THE MINNESOTA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS.

At the annual fall meeting of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs held in Winona September 24-26, the A. L. A. exhibit of panels illustrating Library War Service had a prominent place around the walls of the auditorium. Miss Baldwin, Chairman of the Library Extension Committee, gave a brief report of the work of the committee and introduced Mr. John Adams Lowe, of Camp Devens, Mass. whose talk on Library War Service was greatly enjoyed.

TWIN CITY LIBRARY CLUB

The annual fall dinner of the Twin City Library Club was held at the Leamington Hotel, Minneapolis, on the evening of October ninth, with about ninety members present.

Mr. John Adams Lowe, librarian of Camp Devens, Massachusetts, gave a delightful informal talk on camp libraries, relating many amusing incidents of camp life in general and convincing his audience that war library service is well worth while.

Miss Clara F. Baldwin, of the Commis-

sion, announced the coming United War Work Campaign, laying stress on Minnesota's share and what is expected of the librarians throughout the state.

A short business meeting was held and the following officers were elected for the coming year:

President, Miss Bessie Scripture, East High School, Minneapolis.

Vice-President, Mr. C. Edward Graves, State Historical Society, St. Paul.

Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Florence Currie, University Library, Minneapolis.

AMY COWLEY, Secretary.

THE CLARA BALDWIN LIBRARY CLUB

The Clara Baldwin Library Club met October 23, at Buhl, the first meeting in the new library building. The meeting opened with a report by Miss Hurlbert of the M. L. A. meeting at Mankato. There was next a discussion of easy books for foreigners, led by Miss Laing, each member contributing some titles. After luncheon a round table on the United War Work Campaign, the work and history of the seven organizations, was led by Miss Palmer who had brought with her many posters to discuss with the club.

FANNIE KERR, Secretary.

THE UNITED WAR WORK CAMPAIGN

Although the final returns have not yet been received, the quota of the United War Work Campaign has been exceeded. As the Minneapolis campaign was postponed until the first week in December, the report from Minnesota is not complete, but all other districts in the state have raised their pledges, and the state director, Mr. E. W. Peck, estimates that our total will be about \$4,500,000.

The influenza epidemic was a serious handicap, as it not only prevented special public meetings and closed libraries, schools and churches, but many workers were afflicted. In response to a request from headquarters, an effort was made to ascertain the number of library workers who were engaged in the campaign. Only about 50 libraries have been heard from, but their reports indicate that all librarians found ways of distributing the publicity matter through stores and other public places and library boards were well represented on the campaign committees.

In Minneapolis a unique form of publicity is to be the erection of typical "huts" of the seven organizations on one of the downtown streets. The public library will equip the camp library and members of its staff will be on duty throughout the week.

The set of ten panels was exhibited at the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs at Winona, at the M. L. A. at Mankato, at the Ottertail County Fair at Fergus Falls, at Little Falls, Duluth, St. Paul and Minneapolis.

The set of rotogravures sent to all libraries will be of continued use after the campaign is over. The story of camp library service is not yet finished and should be known and read of all men.

LIBRARY EXHIBIT AT OTTER-TAIL COUNTY FAIR, MINNESOTA

By AMY A. LEWIS, Librarian, Fergus Falls Public Library.

The Fergus Falls Public Library has recently held its fourth exhibit at the local County Fair, and thinks other libraries may be interested in hearing about it.

We made our preparations some time beforehand. In the September number of the "Library Journal" we noted the Massachusetts College Library bookmark, and for advertising purposes adapted the idea, and had 500 bookmarks printed for distribution. The Children's Librarian worked hard with the pictures for the booth. She took different subjects from the covers of the Literary Digest, Independent, Collier, Saturday Evening Post, and other magazines to illustrate the many activities with which the Library is in touch. Library War Service, Food Administration, Red Cross, Thrift Stamps, all had their place. These pictures were mounted on white cardboard of uniform size, and were very effective.

The booth allotted to us was about 10 feet wide. Across the entrance ran the sign in black and white, "FERGUS FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY." On each side of this were placed the flags of the Allies. Below the lettering were pictures of men of the hour, President Wilson in the center. At the back of the booth shone the Stars and Stripes, surmounting the British "Honi soit qui mal y pense," the motto of the Order of the Garter. French war posters, some of them originals, loaned by a friend, were placed on the east and west sides.

We were fortunately able to secure the

A. L. A. exhibit, showing the work being done for the soldiers in the camps. These were a great attraction, and of splendid educational value.

On the display rack at the entrance of the booth were arranged copies of the latest war books, new fiction, children's illustrated books, and Farmers' Bulletins. A cabinet of stereopticon views was placed in one corner, and a book-desk with copies of some of the latest magazines invited inspection.

Experience has taught us that we must not only advertise the Library, but must also interest the public in ways that will appeal to them. Food conservation being particularly prominent this year, we procured material from the U. S. Food Administration, War Garden Commission, North Western Yeast Company, Royal Baking Powder Company, and others for the public to take freely.

During the five days of the Fair the members of the Library staff took charge of the booth in turns, and were always ready to answer questions, and give information.

FERGUS FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Free to every resident of the city.
Expects everyone to return books promptly
Reserves books on application.
Gets, buys, or borrows material when desired
Utilizes every inch of space.
Serves the public expeditiously.

Farmers' Bulletins to be had for the asking
Aims to increase in usefulness
Likes to have folks browse among the stacks
Lets teachers have all the books they need
Selects books for stay-at-homes.

Practises courtesy and efficiency
Up-to-date in Library War Service
Believes in open shelves
Lets all students have a fair chance
Interests and instructs the children
Circulates books to all Fergus Falls people

Looks up facts and figures for debaters
Invites you into the delights of research work

Begins the day at 2:00 p. m. and closes at 9:30 p. m.

Renews books for those who need them
Always anxious to learn of new and better things

Relies upon the good-will of the community
Yes, it ought to be well patronized by everyone.

MINNESOTA WAR RECORDS COMMISSION

The Governor has appointed a body called the Minnesota War Records Commission to collect and preserve the records of Minnesota's participation in the World War. This Commission has met, organized, and formulated plans. The course of action decided upon embodies the following leading features. The Commission will make it their object to collect and preserve all available records (using that term in its broadest sense) which relate to Minnesota's participation in the war and to the course of life in Minnesota during the war. To accomplish this the Commission will organize County War Records Committees throughout the state. With the material collected there will be built up both state and county war collections, the state collection being filed as it accumulates in the library of the Minnesota Historical Society. Franklin F. Holbrook, field agent of the historical society, was appointed director in charge of the activities of the Commission.

The success of the war records work in the various communities of the state will depend very largely upon the interest and co-operation of local librarians and library boards. Librarians will doubtless be asked to serve as members of the local war records committees and to receive and care for the local war records as they come in. It is hoped that the local library will thus enlarge the scope of its usefulness to the community and at the same time forward a movement whose significance will become more and more apparent as the years go by.
—F. F. H.

THE WAR IS OVER—WHAT NEXT?

The War Service of libraries has absorbed so large a part of their time and energy that the sudden cessation of hostilities leaves us at first somewhat bewildered in the midst of the many changes which are taking place so rapidly. But while the armistice has been signed, the war problems and more serious after-war problems are still confronting us, and call for our co-operation more insistently than ever.

War Libraries. The war libraries will play an important part in the period of demobilization and rehabilitation, and the campaign for books should go steadily forward. Notices for immediate shipment of books on hand have been sent direct to all

libraries from A. L. A. headquarters.

Food Conservation. The new food program is more comprehensive than ever before, as 180,000,000 people are looking to America for food. The campaign of education on food problems will be continued and all material sent to libraries from the Food Administration should be carefully studied and used to advantage. For the exhibit during food conservation week, a supply of bulletins was sent out from state headquarters. While some of these are now out of date, they are of historical interest showing the work of the Food Administration, and libraries are requested to preserve for permanent records one copy of everything issued.

Watch for further suggestions from the Food Administration, and be ready to adapt these to your own community and embrace every opportunity to aid in this important work.

Child Conservation. The U. S. Children's Bureau through the help of the Woman's Committee of the Council of National Defense, has enabled every community through the Children's Year campaign to discover the health status of its young children.

The follow-up-work suggested is very practical, but in order to do it successfully the help of the libraries is necessary. Not only should they have on their shelves the best books and pamphlets on child care and child welfare, but they should make sure that every mother, nurse, doctor and social worker in the community knows that they have them and that they are essential to the success of their work. The statistics of infant mortality and the facts of child-saving work are as full of interest to every community as those concerning food conservation, and should have the same sort and extent of publicity.

Miss Elva L. Bascom, of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, has been appointed special agent of the Children's Bureau for the establishment of a direct relationship between the Bureau and the libraries, and the Minnesota Commission has agreed to act as the intermediate agent in reaching the libraries of the state with lists, bulletins and information. The libraries in their turn will be asked to see that the material reaches those in their community who are in need of it.

Americanization. The war has surely shown us the need of Americanization, even

if we are not yet quite clear as to the best means of accomplishing it. The program of the state committee as outlined in Dr. Aronovici's paper has many suggestions and the leaflet issued by the Woman's Committee of the Minnesota Council of the National Defense will appeal to every librarian. This has been mailed to Minnesota libraries with the December Book-list.

Reconstruction. The economic and industrial problems of the reconstruction period will be brought home directly or indirectly to every community, and the library can help as it has during the war by circulating reliable information and encouraging serious study of these problems. The wonderful organization which has been set up for war work should be used in developing a new community spirit, and the library has a wider opportunity than ever before to come into its own.

UNITED STATES BOYS' WORKING RESERVE.

National Program of Library Co-operation.

Libraries can aid the Reserve as follows:

1. **Publicity**—The Librarian and his entire staff should familiarize themselves thoroughly regarding the purpose, organization, and work of the U. S. Boys' Working Reserve, and then should take steps to interest in the Reserve all boys in the community between the ages of 16 and 21. The interest of the boys can best be obtained by the Librarian through the use of posters, by displaying in a conspicuous place the literature descriptive of the Reserve, and the material used by the Reserve in enrolling, training, and awarding of boys; by distributing among all boy patrons of the library pamphlets describing the Reserve; and by such other appeals for volunteers as the Librarian may devise.

2. **Co-operation**—The Librarian should co-operate with all individuals and organizations in the city, town, and county that are interested in the U. S. Boys' Working Reserve, in order to participate in the largest possible measure in the work of the Reserve. Among these agencies are County Directors and local Enrolling Officers of the U. S. Boys' Working Reserve, and the junior counselor in the employment office of the United States Employment Service,

if there be such a counselor appointed; the principals of high schools, vocational schools, corporation schools, and other schools, and local employers of boys.

3. Enrollment of Boys—The Librarian should communicate with the County Director of the Reserve and offer his services as an enrolling officer to enroll at the library all boys of Reserve age not in school, and to direct all schoolboys to their school enrolling officer. The Librarian should prepare a list of all boy patrons of the library who are of Reserve age, and make especial effort to interest them and enroll them in the Reserve. As a means of interesting boys in the Reserve it is recommended that the Librarian should maintain in a conspicuous place in the library an Honor Roll of boys who have enrolled in the Reserve. This list should be considered and kept as a part of the local war records.

4. Education—The Librarian should do everything possible to make accessible to boys the farmcraft lessons and the supplementary readings, together with such courses and the accompanying readings as are provided or recommended by the Reserve for boys who have enrolled or may enroll in the Industrial Unit of the Reserve. While much of this material may be obtained free, the Library Board and the Librarian should make as liberal a purchase as possible of books that can be used in the vocational guidance and training of Reserve boys. In co-operation with the County Director of the Reserve, the local school authorities and the local junior counselor of the United States Employment Office, the Librarian should arrange for the holding of training classes where boys enrolled in the Reserve may receive the necessary instruction in the elements of farm practice and vocational training for work in the industries. The boys who have completed a season of service on the farms should be provided by the Librarian with advanced reading material on agricultural topics and encouraged to make further preparation for farm service next season.

5. Welfare—The Librarian should provide neighboring central supply camps, training farms and farm supply camps with deposits of interesting books and periodicals. If there is no camp near the library the Librarian should lend books to Reserve

boys going out of the city to work on farms. Special effort should be made to provide boys already employed in local industries with good literature.

There should be close co-operation between the Librarian and the Welfare Supervisors of the Boys' Working Reserve, and with agencies such as churches, chambers of commerce, etc., that are endeavoring to provide entertainment for Reserve boys who are in neighboring farm supply camps or training farms, on farms, or in factories, and also to provide supervisors with suggestions and material for recreational and inspirational programs.

GEORGE A. DEVENEAU,
Director of Library Co-operation, U. S. Boys'
Working Reserve.

AIDS TO LIBRARIANS

War Bibliographies. A suggestive outline for study on **Problems of the War**, arranged by Harriet N. Bircholdt and recommended by the Department of Educational Propaganda, Woman's Committee, Council of National Defense contains references on Political issues of the war, constructive patriotism, national efficiency, home and educational problems, reconstruction, etc. The Commission has received a limited supply from the Woman's Committee, and will send a copy to any library upon application.

Woman in the War is a very complete bibliography, prepared by Marion R. Nims, News Department of the Woman's Committee, Council of National Defense. A copy will be sent to all of the larger libraries of the state with the December book-list and these should be preserved for future reference.

War's End, is a thrilling little booklet by John Foster Carr in which he recounts what he heard Italian workmen say of the war. It is a revelation of fine and common-sense idealism which will be a sure foundation for the building of the future. It may be obtained of the Immigration Publication Society, 241 Fifth Ave., New York for fifteen cents postpaid.

Portrait of Miss Sanford. Through the courtesy of William J. Hamilton, now

secretary of the Public Library Commission of Indiana, formerly of Minneapolis, the Commission has received a number of copies of the program of the University Convocation on Miss Sanford's eightieth birthday, with an excellent portrait. These will be distributed to libraries upon request as long as the supply lasts.

LIBRARY LEGISLATION

County Library Law. A committee has been appointed through the Minnesota Library Association to prepare a revision of the county library law to be introduced in the coming session of the legislature. The committee consists of A. L. Thwing, Grand Rapids; J. C. Noe, Mankato; Howard Bratton, Faribault; Paul Ahles, St. Cloud; Carl K. Bennett, Owatonna. All are members of library boards which are deeply interested in this matter. A draft of the bill will be submitted to library boards before its introduction for suggestions and criticism. The county has been the unit in all the war activities, and it would seem to be an opportune time to push this form of library extension, taking advantage of the broader community spirit which has been developed.

Library Commission Appropriation. It will be recalled that the last legislature cut the annual appropriation of the Library Commission from \$13,500 to \$12,000, thereby seriously crippling its activities, particularly in view of the greatly increased cost of everything during the war. The organizing has practically been dropped and visiting of libraries has been reduced to the minimum. The Commission will ask for \$16,000 at the coming session, and asks the support of librarians and library boards throughout the state. A word to representatives and senators before they come to the Capitol will be more effective than letters after they arrive. If libraries have found the service of the Library Commission of any value, now is the time to show their appreciation.

TRAVELING LIBRARY NOTES

Two more traveling library sets have been made up, one of twenty-five volumes and one of fifty volumes. These libraries include the recent books of general interest and fiction for adults and children.

Special effort is being made to establish a traveling library station in every rural school and community in the state. This is made possible through the hearty cooperation of the teachers and other educational extension workers.

The Commission dispatched over a hundred books to the soldiers on guard at Moose Lake Camp after the fire.

—A. C.

PERSONAL

Dr. W. Dawson Johnston, in addition to his duties as St. Paul city librarian, is at present supervisor of the war library service of the American Library Association in the Aviation Mechanics' Training School in St. Paul, at Camp Logan, at Fort Sheridan, and at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. Dr. Johnston began his work at Great Lakes on October 4th.

Miss Edith Frost, librarian of Linden Hills Branch, Minneapolis has started for France to do canteen work under the Red Cross.

Miss Carolyn Williams, of Lincoln, Neb., has gone to International Falls to take charge of the re-organized public library.

Miss Della MacGregor has been appointed Chairman of library work in the Northern Division of the American Junior Red Cross service. The aim of the library committee is to promote library service as one of the means of properly informing children concerning their national life and of preparing them for intelligent participation in the activities of the Junior Red Cross and affiliated organizations.

Miss Winifred Gregory, Chief of the Industrial Arts Department, has been appointed Assistant at A. L. A. War Service Headquarters in charge of the selection of technical literature for the camp libraries. On account of the epidemic of Spanish Influenza in Washington Miss Gregory will not assume her duties there at present. In the meantime, she has been granted a leave of absence to take up War library work in the hospital for soldiers at Asheville, North Carolina.

Miss Katharine Patten, librarian of the Minneapolis Athenaeum, has been appointed by the A. L. A. Library War Service as librarian of the hospital at Fort Snelling, and is devoting practically all of her time to this work.

Miss Elizabeth Robinson, Librarian of the Medford, (Ore.) Public Library, has been appointed Supervisor of School Libraries in St. Paul a position for which her experience specially fits her. Miss Robinson is a graduate of the Carnegie Library School Pittsburgh. She has had charge of the children's department in the public libraries of Lincoln, Neb., Sioux City, Iowa, and Seattle. Before going to Medford she was librarian of the Ballard Branch at Seattle.

NEWS OF MINNESOTA LIBRARIES

(Items of news for this column are solicited from all libraries in the state. They should be sent to the Director of the Commission by the 15th of the month preceding each issue of the bulletin, which appears quarterly in March, June, September and December.)

Albert Lea. The library took charge of the registration of nurses October 5-7.

Alexandria. Senator Knute Nelson has presented to the library a German helmet as a relic of the war. The helmet was given to Senator Nelson by Col. Donahue of the 1st Minnesota Artillery, who secured it from a German prisoner in France.

Austin. An exhibit of new books held at the library attracted about 300 visitors. The book dealers and J. M. Beck, a local book-binder co-operated by furnishing gift books and fine bindings.

Blue Earth. The interior of the library has been artistically redecorated through the generosity of Mr. W. E. C. Ross, the donor of the building. The scheme is in Renaissance style on a ground work of soft gray, to harmonize with the architecture of the building.

Cloquet. The library building was completely destroyed in the terrible fire which wiped out the city of Cloquet. Miss Riley writes "Everything is gone except a few bricks and the light globes out in front, which serve as guide-posts for people trying to locate themselves. There is insurance which will help in making a start." The Commission will send at once about 2,000 books from the regular traveling libraries and its reserve supply, which will be kept at the school building, until quarters can be provided downtown. Miss Riley has returned to Cloquet, and the library board is ready for business.

It is believed that libraries throughout the state will be glad to assist in the rehabilitation of the library. Will any librarian who

has duplicates of usable books which can be spared send a list to Miss Mildred Riley, Cloquet?

Dawson. The Carnegie library at Dawson was opened October 1st, in charge of Miss Helen Stratte, as librarian. The school library with the exception of its reference books was transferred to the public library, and a good list of new fiction, readable non-fiction and children's books has been purchased. A ladies' rest-room is open in the basement, and the reading-room has been used for Red Cross sewing.

Duluth. The Lincoln branch of the Public Library was used as a distributing center for clothing and supplies for fire refugees.

Fulda. The library association has secured an appropriation of \$150 from the council beginning November, 1918.

Hibbing. The Hibbing library has just installed what may be considered a branch library on wheels in the shape of a two-ton White bus, purchased by the town of Stuntz at a cost of \$7,969.80 for use in the extension work. Its inside measurements are 15.3 by 6.6 and 7 ft high. Sides have about 100 feet of book shelving, the rear end a black leather cushioned seat. Backed against the driver's seat is a seat for the librarian with a small desk in front of her and a book bin under her seat and part of the desk. The interior finish is dark golden oak with brown linoleum on the floor. The shelving has disappearing doors like a sectional bookcase with glass front and a special book support which can be adjusted and clamped. The shelves themselves slant a trifle to the rear to help overcome the sway of the bus when in motion. The bus has its own heating and lighting system. On the side of the bus above the paneling is TOWN OF STUNTZ and below the panels is HIBBING PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE. Some of the locations to be visited will be ten and twelve miles from the main library. The one machine can visit three locations a day and remain for from two to five hours in each. The locations have from two hundred to two thousand residents and the machine will carry a collection of about 1,000 books on each trip and serve about 6,000 people outside of the city limits. About ten patrons can be accommodated at a time in the car.

International Falls. The public library has been reorganized through the efforts of Miss Margaret Mahoney of St. Paul, who

served as librarian during the summer and fall. Miss Cowley of the Library Commission spent three weeks with Miss Mahoney to assist her in re-classifying, and Miss Leavitt, the High School librarian with a number of teachers also gave their services while the schools were closed. With new quarters, an increased appropriation, and co-operation with the school library well established, the library is entering upon a new period of usefulness under the direction of Miss Carolyn Williams, a librarian of training and experience.

Mankato. The library supplied a collection of books for a troop train en route to a Georgia camp, passing through Mankato in October. Short stories have been taken from old magazines and sent to Bethany Detention Hospital for the use of convalescing influenza patients. This work was done in part by the Koochiching Camp Fire Girls. The Junior Red Cross is making soldier scrap books for which the library furnishes the magazines.

Minneapolis. Mr. T. B. Walker of Minneapolis has presented to the city of Minneapolis what is considered the world's most famous private art collection, together with a site at the old Lowry homestead, Hennepin and Lyndale Ave., for a new public library. The collection is estimated by authorities as worth \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000. The only condition is that a suitable building to house the collection and the public library shall be provided.

Nashwauk. The public library has opened a branch at the Harrison location store.

Northfield. The library board has voted to extend its privileges free to all members of the Northfield community. Formerly a small fee was charged for non-residents of the city.

Ortonville. A new heating plant has been installed in the library by the council as it is no longer practicable to use the steam from the power plant for this purpose. The council will provide fuel and operate the heating plant, in return for its use of the basement rooms.

Pine Island. An informal reception was given to the teachers by the Federated Clubs early in October. A large carbon photograph of The Forum has been given to the library by Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Lewis. This with the three pictures presented by the

Federated Clubs add much to the attractiveness of the reading room.

The sum of \$14 remaining in the treasury of the Eighth grade of 1918 has been turned over to the library book fund.

St. Paul. The St. Paul Public Library was closed to the public from Nov. 6 to Nov. 15, on account of the epidemic of Spanish Influenza. During that time the staff was employed in taking inventory and in bringing up the arrears of work due to several members of the staff being absent on War work.

At a meeting of the Library Council September 23d, the following resolution was passed. Resolved, that the library rules be amended so as to allow library cardholders to borrow ten books at one time, including three of fiction. The rules hitherto permitted them to borrow only five books.

The Library has issued the following publications:

Railroads: a selected list of books in the St. Paul Public Library. 12 p.

St. Paul Public Library, List of publications. 2 p.

Sea Stories: a selected list of books for boys and girls in the St. Paul Public Library. 4 p.

What to read at home:

Books for the 3d and 4th grades. 4 p.

Books for the 5th and 6th grades. 4 p.

Books for the 7th and 8th grades. 6 p.

The first installment of a bibliography entitled "Improvement of the Upper Mississippi River," by Miss Winifred Gregory of the Industrial Arts Department, appears in the September number of the Bulletin of the Affiliated Engineering Societies of America.

Mrs. J. T. Jennings, Chief of the Catalogue Division, has an article in the Library Journal for October, entitled "Statistics of women in library work."

Winona. A handsome flag was raised on the library lawn on General Pershing's birthday. A large map of the battlefields of France posted in the art room of the library, showing the location of the armies was of intense interest during the last weeks of the war.

Worthington. The basement of the library was turned over to the Red Cross and is the chapter house of Nobles Co. The librarian acted as registrar during the intensive campaign for trained nurses, and also served as county leader of women in the United War Work Campaign.

Two new double stacks have been added during the year.

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